

# 'Dig, Dig, Dig', the Tax Man Says

Your Complete Community Newspaper  
Every Sunday and Thursday



## Torrance Herald

Torrance Football  
Schedules Set  
(See Page 6)

Serving Greater Torrance — Capital City of the Great Southwest

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# AREA UNITS BATTLE FLAMES

## A Penny for your Thoughts

The pennies photographer asked several leaders of the youth programs, "What is being done for the youth of the community, and is the present program adequate for the city?"

Mrs. Gordon Gmur, Torrance Junior Women's Club:

"A tremendous amount has been done in the last few years for our youth. Y work and scouting, and other activities, are coming more into the public focus and have enlightened the community to the work being done and to the need for more volunteer leaders."

Ted Hasegawa, Torrance Civitan Club, and board chairman for the Scout Center:

"A tremendous job is being done in Torrance. I think that we should back all youth activities with more efforts, more facilities, and more co-operation with the youth groups. Both our youth, and the city stand to benefit by decreasing delinquency and improving programs."

Mrs. Jack Dean, YWCA board of directors:

"First I think the biggest problem in Torrance is the rapid growth. The city is spread out, and there is no central area of interest. We are failing to reach the youth in the outside areas. We need to expand facilities and additional funds in order to have good programs which are reaching the whole city."

Mrs. James Misel, philanthropy chairman, Junior Women's Club:

"I think Torrance has a good youth program. But I also think the first responsibility is at home and it can't be left up to civic groups to what the home doesn't do. There must be a combination of the two, working in harmony with each other, to achieve a truly adequate program."

(More opinions on today's question may be found on Page 2)

## New Highs In County Tax Total

Taxpayers of Torrance and other Southland cities were notified this week that they will have to dig deeper — a lot deeper — to meet new obligations for the several taxing agencies of the area.

Residents within the city limits of Torrance will have to dig up a total of \$8,8631 for each \$100 of assessed valuation to meet the demands of Los Angeles County, the city of Torrance, Torrance Unified School District, and special districts such as the Metropolitan Water District, County Sanitation District, County Flood Control District, and El Camino College.

TORRANCE'S rate is among the highest in Los Angeles County, topping most Southwest area cities. Only Manhattan Beach, with a combined rate of \$9.0252, tops the Torrance rate.

Major hikes this year came in Los Angeles County taxes, up more than 13 cents for each \$100 of valuation, and school taxes, up more than 8 cents. City taxes were held at the same level as last year.

ADOPTION of a \$682,640,213 county budget for 1963-64 triggered the 13-cent tax hike for that agency. The approved budget set the new rate at \$2.2148 per each \$100 of valuation. The Torrance rate was pegged at \$1.238 per \$100 and the school district tax was set by Supervisors at \$4.6850.

The boost for Los Angeles city taxpayers, including those living in Torrance's Shoestring Strip, has been set at \$8.7253, a boost of nearly 37 cents over last year's rate.

## Innocent Plea Made In Murder

Trial of a Torrance man charged in the fatal shooting of a bar patron has been scheduled to begin Sept. 16 in Inglewood Superior Court.

Warren R. Heaton, 22, of 814 Sartori Ave., was ordered to stand trial after pleading innocent by reason of insanity to the charges of murdering Cruz G. Guerra, 52, of 1321 W. Carson St., in a downtown bar early on the morning of May 20. Guerra died later at Harbor General Hospital of injuries received when the .22-caliber derringer slug entered his head through the left eye.

Superior Judge William Rosenthal accepted Heaton's innocent plea this week and ordered the Sept. 16 trial.

At the time of the shooting, it was reported that Heaton and Guerra had been arguing over a wager on the outcome of a shuffleboard game.

Police later found a gun identified as the one used in the shooting. They were led to its location in a nearby park by Heaton.

## Lomita Man Gets 25-Year Pin

George W. Inman, 1737 W. 247th Pl., Lomita, will receive a 25-year pin during a luncheon Sept. 13 honoring employees of the county. Supervisor Kenneth Hahn will present pins to Inman and 49 other county workers.



BLEACHERS . . . Spectators line Paseo Del Campo along the north boundary of the Palos Verdes Golf Course Friday afternoon as flames raced through brush and trees of the Peninsula site. Palos Verdes Fire Chief Jack Hansen directed

nearly 40 units from Palos Verdes and neighboring cities, and Los Angeles County in the five-hour battle to contain the raging blaze. Firemen were still on the scene Saturday checking smoldering trees and brush pockets.

## GROUP ASKS Keep City's Industrial Land Clear

In line with stepped-up activity by the Chamber of Commerce industrial development committee, the committee has urged the Torrance Planning Commission and the City Council to preserve existing industrial lands in the city.

The chamber cited a sound tax base and a balanced economic structure as main points in the request sent to the planners. The action followed a request by a developer that 33 acres of prime industrial land be rezoned for residences.

THE COMMITTEE said that the importance of maintaining existing industrial properties is obvious. "If the city is to have a sound tax base, and a balanced residential, commercial, and industrial community, the committee said, "it is imperative that the present industrial acreages be preserved."

It was further noted that a recent survey revealed that less than 700 acres of land is now available for industrial development from the total of 13,312 acres.

The Planning Commission was told that the chamber committee is engaged in an unceasing effort to secure new industries for the city. "Preservation of all M-1 and M-2 properties will make the committee's job easier and will ultimately result in a broader tax base, a better balanced economy, and a finer city," said the request.

## NOTICE

Torrance Herald offices will be closed Monday, Labor Day. All news and advertising deadlines for Thursday's edition will remain unchanged.



FRONT ROW . . . These teenagers, attracted to the raging fire on the Palos Verdes Golf Course acreage Friday afternoon, get a close look as flames raced through tinder-dry brush and wooded areas of the Peninsula area. Fire officials yesterday estimated that more than 50 acres of valuable watershed had been burned over.

(Herald Photos by Darrell Maddox)

## Soaring Land Costs Could Delay New College Choice

High cost of land could delay development of a new four-year college in this area by another year, it was reported in Sacramento Friday.

Sacramento reports quoting Philip Groff, State Public Works Board administrative assistant, indicated that the \$5 million allocated to acquire a site for the college may be far short of the amount needed because of the high land costs in the area.

Members of the State Board of Public Works met in Sacramento earlier in the week without taking action on the local

college. Material gathered during a meeting of the board here in mid-August is being studied further.

Official appraisals of the proposed Palos Verdes Peninsula site have not been received by the state, according to Groff, but early studies indicate the 175-acre site selected atop the Palos Verdes hills will exceed the budget of \$5 million. The board can go over the budget a little, but if additional funds in any sizable amount are needed, new allocations must await the 1964 budget session of the Legislature.

The Palos Verdes site has

been recommended by the Board of Trustees for State Colleges over the objections of the peninsula cities, Torrance, Redondo Beach, and other area cities, and spokesmen for area school districts and industrial properties.

Inclusion of land zoned for scientific research and development in the proposed 175-acre site has triggered the opposition from officials and residents on the peninsula.

Further consideration of the case probably will be scheduled when the State Public Works Board meets in Sacramento on Sept. 30.

## Fire Sweeps Through PV Golf Course

Racing flames which ate through an estimated 100 acres of the Palos Verdes Golf Course property Friday afternoon sent huge clouds of smoke spewing into the air casting a smoky pall over much of Torrance and surrounding communities before nearly half a hundred firefighting units from the area brought it under control at dusk.

Flames swept perilously close to the well-trimmed greens of the peninsula golf course, but did not offer a serious threat to the clubhouse nor to nearby dwellings. Residents near the scene of the flames reported homes sprinkled with soot and ashes from the fire.

Firemen from Palos Verdes Estates were joined by units from Torrance, Manhattan Beach, Gardena, and Redondo Beach as the flames swept through the tinder-dry brush on the golf course.

CONTAINMENT of the fire was announced by Palos Verdes Estate's Fire Chief Jack Hansen about 6:30 p.m. Friday. The fire apparently started in the area of Via Tejon and Palos Verdes Drive North.

Detained for questioning about the blaze were three juveniles, who had been reported fleeing from the scene when the fire started.

A Redondo Beach unit, stuck in the soft sand in a canyon, was recovered without damage after firemen had been forced to abandon it in the face of onrushing flames. The fire swirled around the truck but did not reach the equipment.

OFFICERS of the California Highway Patrol and from the Torrance Police Department answered a call to help control the heavy traffic in the area, attracted by the billowing smoke which towered above the Peninsula. Those attracted to the area by the fire and the many others traveling to their Peninsula homes during the evening caused a major traffic problem for several hours, officers reported.

County weed abatement employees working in the area also were sent to the scene to assist in the fire fighting, according to Chief Hansen.

Firemen stayed at the scene throughout the night checking for rekindled spots, and many firefighters were still in the area yesterday to assure that the flames had been killed.

## Torrance Milk Producers Win

Three Torrance dairymen have won silver medals in the Los Angeles County Fair milk producers contest.

The local winners are the Broges Brothers, Nick Krynen, and Henry Otten. The medals will be presented during Dairy Day, Sept. 18.

## Two Hurt In Traffic Collisions

Two persons were hospitalized with injuries received in traffic accidents less than an hour apart Friday evening, according to Torrance Police Department reports.

Viola Jane Andrews, driver of an auto involved in a collision with one driven by Richard Gerald Peterson, 23, U.S. Navy, was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital after the 9:15 p.m. crash at Palos Verdes Boulevard and Sepulveda. The 43-year-old woman received injuries described as minor. She lives at 4641 Sepulveda Boulevard.

Nancy L. Robinson, 23, of 21918 Redbeam Ave., a passenger in Peterson's vehicle, was taken to a physician by the driver.

FRANCES Elizabeth Boswell, 15, of Redondo Beach, was given first aid by a passing firefighter from Gardena and then taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital for treatment after a collision at 9:58 p.m. at Torrance Boulevard and Reynosa Drive Friday.

The Boswell girl was a passenger in a vehicle driven by Michael Jerome Curry of Manhattan Beach which was involved in an accident with a vehicle driven by Edward Joseph Stayack, 31, of 21035 Reynosa Drive.

THE GARDENA fire unit was returning to its station after assisting area units with the blaze at the Palos Verdes Golf Course when it happened onto the scene of the accident, police were told.

A crash Wednesday evening on Lomita Boulevard plunged sections of the city—including the Torrance police station—into darkness for periods ranging up to an hour. A vehicle driven by Billy B. Parker, 37, of Lomita, clipped a power pole, dropping live wires to the street and disrupting the service.

## Library Shows Children's Film

Two children's films will be shown at the Torrance Main Library, 1345 Post Ave., Saturday morning, Sept. 7.

"Beaver Dam" and "The Bicyclist" will be shown at 10:30 a.m.

## In The Herald Today

|                  |    |                    |       |
|------------------|----|--------------------|-------|
| BOOKS            | 4  | REG MANNING        | 4     |
| ROYCE BRIER      | 4  | COUNT MARCO        | 7     |
| CROSSWORD        | 4  | CHARLES MCCABE     | 6     |
| DEATHS           | 2  | MORNING REPORT     | 4     |
| DELAFLANE        | 4  | OPINIONS OF OTHERS | 4     |
| EDITORIALS       | 4  | PTA NEWS           | 10    |
| GARDEN CHECKLIST | 3  | PUBLIC NOTICES     | 11    |
| ANN LANDERS      | 10 | SOCIETY            | 9-10  |
| LEGAL NOTICES    | 11 | SPORTS             | 5     |
| MAILBOX          | 4  | STAR GAZER         | 3     |
|                  |    | TRAVEL             | 4     |
|                  |    | WANT ADS           | 11-18 |

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